

WHAT I CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected on a predetermined communication medium comprising:~~

5 ~~containing means for obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;~~

10 ~~system display means for displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining means;~~

15 ~~designation means for designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;~~

20 ~~determination means for determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation means is valid or not; and~~

25 ~~setup screen display means for displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation means if said combined functions are determined to be valid.~~

25 2. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

 control means for controlling the peripheral

device; involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation means in order to execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

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3. The data processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said control means controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

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4. The data processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:

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when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation means, said control means causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

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5. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

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said system display means modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation means distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said determination means.

6 The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation
means, said system display means modifies the
5 appearance of said designated icons distinguishably
from the other icons.

7 The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., wherein:

10 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing an printer are designated by said
designation means, said system display means causes an
image to be displayed on said display, said image
indicating that data is being transferred from said
15 scanner to said printer.

8 The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., further comprising: parameter determination
means for determining a parameter involving said
20 combined functions based on information about the
function of peripheral devices according to the
combination of icons designated by said designation
means.

25 The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., wherein said setup screen display means causes
said setup screen to be displayed on said display based

~~on the parameter determined by said parameter~~
determination means.

11. The data processing apparatus according to
5 claim 1, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation means, said determination means determines
the resolution of a copy function based on the
resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said
10 printer.

12. The data processing apparatus according to
15 claim 1, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation means, said determination means determines
which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is
20 to be performed.

13. The data processing apparatus according to
25 claim 1, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation means, said determination means determines
a paper size.

11. The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., wherein said obtaining means obtains
information about the function of said peripheral
device

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11. The data processing apparatus according to
claim ., wherein plural other data processing
apparatuses capable of performing data communication
with said data processing apparatus are connected to
said predetermined communication medium.

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15. The data processing apparatus according to
claim .3, wherein any of said plurality of data
processing apparatus is assigned as a management
server.

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16. The data processing apparatus according to
claim 15, wherein:

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 said obtaining means obtains said connection
information and said status information from said
management server.

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17. The data processing apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said peripheral devices includes a
printer.

18. The data processing apparatus according to

claim .., wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

11. The data processing apparatus according to
5 claim .., wherein said peripheral devices includes a
digital copier.

10 12. The data processing apparatus according to
claim .., wherein said peripheral devices including a
scanner.

15 13. A data processing method in a data processing
apparatus capable of performing data communication with
various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined
communication medium, comprising the steps of:

obtaining connection information and status
information about said peripheral devices;

20 displaying a system configuration on a display
with icons based on said connection information and
said status information obtained by said obtaining
step;

25 designating the combination of any of said icons
displayed on said display;

determining whether combined functions based on
said combination of icons designated by said
designation step is valid or not; and

displaying on said display a setup screen for the

combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation step if said combined functions are determined to be valid

5 21. The data processing method according to claim
21, further comprising the step of controlling the
peripheral devices involving said combination of the
icons designated by said designation step in order to
execute said combined functions in response to an
10 execution instruction.

22. The data processing method according to claim
22, wherein said control step controls said peripheral
device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

15 21. The data processing method according to claim
22, wherein:
 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
 representing a printer are designated by said
20 designation step, said control step causes image data
 to be input to said scanner, said image data to be
 transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said
 image data to be output on said printer.

25 23. The data processing method according to claim
21, wherein said system display step modifies the
 appearance of the icons designated by said designation

~~step d~~ distinguishably from the other icons, if said combin d functions are determined to be valid by said determination step.

5 200. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein:

10 when icons are designated by said designation step, said system display step modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

200'. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein:

15 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation step, said system display step causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

2000. The data processing method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation step.

29. The data processing method according to claim
28, wherein said setup screen display step causes said
setup screen to be displayed on said display based on
the parameter determined by said parameter
determination step.

30. The data processing method according to claim
28, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation step, said determination step determines
the resolution of a copy function based on the
resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said
printer.

31. The data processing method according to claim
28, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation step, said determination step determines
which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is
to be performed.

32. The data processing method according to claim
28, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said

~~designation step, said determination step determines a~~
paper size.

33. The data processing method according to claim
5 21, wherein said obtaining step obtains information
about the function of said peripheral device.

34. The data processing method according to claim
10 21, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses
capable of performing data communication with said data
processing apparatus are connected to said
predetermined communication medium.

35. The data processing method according to claim
15 33, wherein any of said plurality of data processing
apparatuses is assigned as a management server.

36. The data processing method according to claim
20 35, wherein said obtaining step obtains said connection
information and said status information from said
management server.

37. The data processing method according to claim
25 21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

38. The data processing method according to claim
21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a

facsimile.

39. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital 5 copier.

40. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner.

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41. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program for a data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined communication medium, the program comprising the steps of:

obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;

displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining step;

designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;

determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation step is valid or not; and

~~displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation step if said combined functions are determined to be valid~~

42. The memory medium according to claim 41, said program further comprising the step of controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation step in order to 10 execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

43. The memory medium according to claim 42, wherein said control step controls said peripheral 15 device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

44. The memory medium according to claim 42, wherein: 20 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said control step causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

25 45. The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein:

5 said system display step modifies the appearance
of the icons designated by said designation step
distinguishably from the other icons if said combined
functions are determined to be valid by said
determination step.

15 46. The memory medium according to claim 41,
wherein:

10 when icons are designated by said designation
step, said system display step modifies the appearance
of said designated icons distinguishably from the other
icons.

15 47. The memory medium according to claim 41,
wherein:

20 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing an printer are designated by said
designation step, said system display step causes an
image to be displayed on said display, said image
indicating that data is being transferred from said
scanner to said printer.

25 48. The memory medium according to claim 41, the
program further comprising the step of determining a
parameter involving said combined functions based on
information about the function of peripheral devices
according to the combination of icons designated by
said designation step.

49. ~~The memory medium according to claim 48,~~
wherein said setup screen display step causes said
setup screen to be displayed on said display based on
the parameter determined by said parameter
determination step.

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50. ~~The memory medium according to claim 48,~~
wherein:

10 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation step, said determination step determines
the resolution of a copy function based on the
resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said
printer.

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51. ~~The memory medium according to claim 48,~~
wherein:

20 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said
designation step, said determination step determines
which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is
to be performed.

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52. ~~The memory medium according to claim 48,~~
wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon
representing a printer are designated by said

~~designation step, said determination step determines a paper size.~~

53. The memory medium according to claim 41,
5 wherein said obtaining step obtains information about
the function of said peripheral device.

54. The memory medium according to claim 41,
10 wherein plural other data processing apparatuses
capable of performing data communication with said data
processing apparatus are connected to said
predetermined communication medium.

55. The memory medium according to claim 53,
15 wherein any of said plurality of data processing
apparatuses is assigned as a management server.

56. The memory medium according to claim 55,
20 wherein said obtaining step obtains said connection
information and said status information from said
management server.

57. The memory medium according to claim 41,
25 wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

58. The memory medium according to claim 41,
25 wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile

59. The memory medium according to claim 41,
wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital
copier.

5 60. The memory medium according to claim 41,
wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner

10 61. A control program for a data processing
apparatus capable of performing data communication with
various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined
communication medium, comprising the steps of:

obtaining connection information and status
information about said peripheral devices;

15 displaying a system configuration on a display
with icons based on said connection information and
said status information obtained by said obtaining
step;

designating the combination of any of said icons
displayed on said display;

20 determining whether combined functions based on
said combination of icons designated by said
designation step is valid or not; and

25 displaying on said display a setup screen for the
combined functions based on said combination designated
by said designation step if said combined functions are
determined to be valid.

62. The program according to claim 61, further comprising the step of controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation step in order to execute 5 said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

63. The program according to claim 62, wherein 10 said control step controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

64. The program according to claim 62, wherein: 15 when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said control step causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

65. The program according to claim 61, wherein: 20 said system display step modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation step distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said 25 determination step.

66. The program according to claim 61, wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation step, said system display step modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

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67. The program according to claim 61, wherein:
when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation step, said system display step causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

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68. The program according to claim 61, further comprising the step of determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation step.

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69. The program according to claim 68, wherein said setup screen display step causes said setup screen to be displayed on said display based on the parameter determined by said parameter determination step.

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70. The program according to claim 68, wherein:
when an icon representing a scanner and an icon

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representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines the resolution of a copy function based on the resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said printer.

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71. The program according to claim 68, wherein: when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is to be performed.

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72. The program according to claim 68, wherein: when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines a paper size.

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73. The program according to claim 61, wherein said obtaining step obtains information about the function of said peripheral device.

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74. The program according to claim 61, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses capable of performing data communication with said data processing apparatus are connected to said predetermined

communication medium.

75. The program according to claim 73, wherein
any of said plurality of data processing apparatuses is
5 assigned as a management server.

76. The program according to claim 75, wherein
said obtaining step obtains said connection information
and said status information from said management
10 server.

77. The program according to claim 61, wherein
said peripheral devices includes a printer.

15 78. The program according to claim 61, wherein
said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

79. The program according to claim 61, wherein
said peripheral devices includes a digital copier.

20 80. The program according to claim 61, wherein
said peripheral devices including a scanner.

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